

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows.

In the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A surface light source device having comprising:

- i. a prism pattern;
- ii. a directional light-diffusing film which diffuses and allows light to pass and comprises of two phases with differing refractive indices wherein the phase with the greater refractive index includes a plurality of regions with a columnar structure extending in the direction of the thickness of the film;
- iii. a light-emitting unit comprising a point light source and a light guide, and
- iv. a reflecting surface being provided on the reverse side of the light guide, and also having a prism pattern;

characterized in that wherein,

the directional light-diffusing film is provided on the opposite side of the light guide from the side where the reflecting surface is provided and

a directional light-diffusing film is provided beside the light outputting surface of the light guide which diffuses and allows light to pass, comprising two phases with differing refractive indices, the phase with the greater refractive index including a plurality of regions with a columnar structure extending in the direction of the thickness of the film;

said columnar structure being perpendicular to the normal direction of the film, and whose maximum diffusion angle is between 10°-40°.

2. (Currently amended) The surface light source device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that said directional light-diffusing film is bonded to said light guide or prism sheet with prism pattern using a light-diffusing adhesion agent containing microparticles with a diameter of 0.1-50 μm .

3. (Original) The surface light source device as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that said light-diffusing adhesion agent contains minute particles with diameters in the range of 1-100 nm whose refractive index is 1.8 or greater.
4. (Previously presented) The surface optical source device as claimed in claim 2 characterized in that the refractive index of said light-diffusing adhesion agent is 1.55 or greater.
5. (Previously presented) The surface optical source device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that said columnar structure has a structure such that the refractive index varies gradually along the axis of said columnar structure.
6. (Previously presented) The surface light source device as claimed in claim 1 characterized in that said light-emitting unit is positioned facing the center of the end surface of the light guide.
7. (Previously presented) The surface light source device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that said light-emitting unit is positioned facing the angled end surface of the light guide.
8. (New) The surface light source device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the directional light-diffusing film which diffuses and allows light to pass consists of two phases with differing refractive indices wherein the phase with the greater refractive index includes a plurality of regions with a columnar structure extending in the direction of the thickness of the film.
9. (New) The surface light source device as claimed in claim 1, wherein a diffusion pattern is affixed between the reflecting surface and the light guide.
10. (New) The surface light source device as claimed in claim 8, wherein a diffusion pattern is affixed between the reflecting surface and the light guide.
11. (New) The surface optical source device as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that said columnar structure has a structure such that the refractive index varies gradually along the axis of said columnar structure.

12. (New) The surface light source device as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that said light-emitting unit is positioned facing the center of the end surface of the light guide.

13. (New) The surface light source device as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that said light-emitting unit is positioned facing the angled end surface of the light guide.